

Amendments to the Claims: This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the above-captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended): A fin for a heat exchanger comprising a plurality of waving strips, each having a repeated structure comprising a first flat portion, a first inclined plate portion extending from said first flat portion at a first inclination angle, a second flat portion extending from said first inclined plate portion in parallel to said first flat portion, and a second inclined plate portion extending from said second flat portion at a second inclination angle, arranged in this order, wherein said waving strips are arranged adjacent to each other in a transverse direction to each waving strip and are offset from each other in a longitudinal direction, such that said adjacent waving strips are connected at connecting portions between said first flat portions of said adjacent waving strips and between said second flat portions of said adjacent waving strips, and a length (T) of an outer surface and an inner surface of each connecting portion in said longitudinal direction of each waving strip is less than or equal to about a thickness (t) of a plate forming each waving strip.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) The fin of claim 1, where first said length (T) is a first distance between a first critical point between said second inclined plate portion and said first inner surface of said first flat portion of one of said waving strips and a second critical point between said first inner surface of said first flat portion and said first inclined plate portion of an adjacent one of said waving strips, and a second distance between a third critical point between said first inclined plate portion and said second inner surface of said second flat portion of one of said waving strips and a fourth critical point between said first second surface of said second flat portion and said second inclined plate portion of an adjacent one of said waving strips.

Claim 3. (Currently amended): A heat exchanger comprising:
a plurality of flat-type heat transfer tubes and
an inner fin provided in each heat transfer tube, said inner fin comprising a plurality of waving strips, each having a repeated structure comprising a first flat portion, a first inclined plate portion extending from said first flat portion at a first inclination angle, a second flat portion extending from said first inclined plate portion in parallel to said first flat portion, and a second inclined plate portion extending from said second flat portion at a second inclination angle, arranged in this order, wherein said waving strips are arranged adjacent to each other in a transverse direction to each waving strip and are offset from each other in a longitudinal

direction, such that said adjacent waving strips are connected at connecting portions between said first flat portions of said adjacent waving strips and between said second flat portions of said adjacent waving strips, and a length (T) of an outer surface and an inner surface of each connecting portion in said longitudinal direction of each waving strip is less than or equal to about a thickness (t) of a plate forming each waving strip.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) The heat exchanger of claim 3, where said length (T) represents a first distance between a first critical point between said second inclined plate portion and said first inner surface of said first flat portion of one of said waving strips and a second critical point between said first inner surface of said first flat portion and said first inclined plate portion of an adjacent one of said waving strips, and a second distance between a third critical point between said first inclined plate portion and said second inner surface of said second flat portion of one of said waving strips and a fourth critical point between said second inner surface of said second flat portion and said second inclined plate portion of an adjacent one of said waving strips.

Claim 5. (Original): The heat exchanger of claim 3, wherein said inner fin is brazed to an inner surface of said heat transfer tube.

Claim 6. (Original): The heat exchanger of claim 3, wherein said heat exchanger is formed as a multi-flow type heat exchanger comprising a pair of headers, and said plurality of heat transfer tubes interconnecting said pair of headers.

Claim 7. (Withdrawn) A heat exchanger comprising:

a plurality of flat type heat transfer tubes and

an outer fin provided at a position outside of each heat transfer tube, said outer fin comprising a plurality of waving strips, each having a repeated structure comprising a first flat portion, a first inclined plate portion extending from said first flat portion at a first inclination angle, a second flat portion extending from said first inclined plate portion in parallel to said first flat portion, and a second inclined plate portion extending from said second flat portion at a second inclination angle, arranged in this order, wherein said waving strips are arranged adjacent to each other in a transverse direction to each waving strip and are offset in a longitudinal direction such that said adjacent, waving strips are connected at connecting portions between said first flat portions of said adjacent waving strips and between said second flat portions of said adjacent waving strips, and a length (T) of each connecting portion in said longitudinal direction of each waving strip is less than or equal to about a thickness (t) of a plate forming each waving

strip.

Claim 8. (Withdrawn) The heat exchanger of claim 7, wherein said length (T) represents a first distance between a first critical point between said second inclined plate portion and said first flat portion of one of said waving strips and a second critical point between said first flat portion and said first inclined plate portion of an adjacent one of said waving strips, and a second distance between a third critical point between said first inclined plate portion and said second flat portion of one of said waving strips and a fourth critical point between said second flat portion and said second inclined plate portion of an adjacent one of said waving strips.

Claim 9. (Withdrawn) The heat exchanger of claim 7, wherein said outer fin is brazed to each adjacent heat transfer tube.

Claim 10 (Withdrawn) The heat exchanger of claim 7, wherein said heat exchanger is formed as a multi-flow type heat exchanger comprising a pair of headers, and said plurality of heat transfer tubes interconnecting said pair of headers.

Claims 11-12. (Canceled)

REQUEST FOR ONE-MONTH EXTENSION

Applicants respectfully request a one-month extension of time for responding to the Office Action mailed September 22, 2003, with respect to the above-captioned patent application, up to and including January 22, 2004. Applicants are enclosing a check including the amount of \$110 covering the requisite fee (Large Entity) for a one-month extension of time to respond. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), please charge any such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 02-0375.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION:

Applicants are canceling claims 11 and 12, without prejudice; are amending claims 1 and 3 to correct a typographical error; and are amending claims 2 and 4 to clarify further the definition of length (T). Applicants also have made amendments to the specification to clarify further the definition of length (T) and amendments to **Figs. 5 and 6**, consistent with the amendments to the specification. No new matter is added by the foregoing amendments, and these amendments are fully supported by the specification. See, e.g., Appl'n, Para. [0037]-[0039] and [0043]; **Figs. 4-6**. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the above-captioned patent application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.